

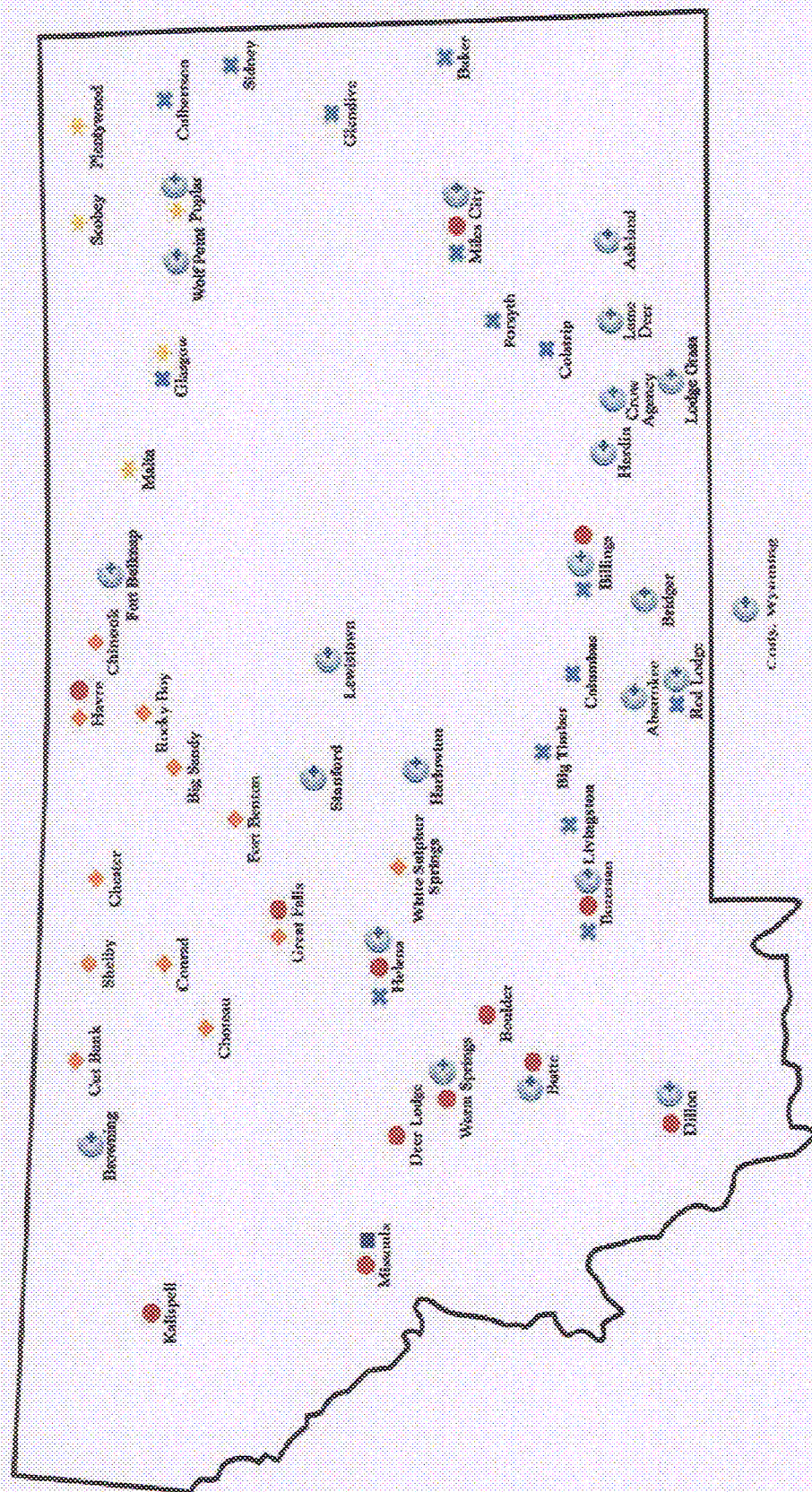
Membership Type Legend: I= Institutional; A = Associate

Company	First Name	Last Name & Mem. type	Job title	Address 1	Mailing address	City	State	Zip Code	Work Phone	FAX Number	E-Mail
Vision Net	Kris	Harrison (A)	ITV Manager/ Engineer	1211 N.W. Bypass	P.O. Box 3068	Great Falls	MT	59403	406-476-4700	406-727-6067	kris@montanavision.net
St. Vincent Healthcare Foundation	Doris	Barta (I)	Director, Grants Division	St. Vincent Healthcare Foundation	175 North 27 th Street, Suite 803	Billings	MT	59107	406-237-3602	406-237-3615	doris.barta@svh-mt.org
Partners in Health Telehealth Network	Tom	Brewer (I)	Director	Saint Vincent Healthcare		Billings	MT	59107	406-237-8660		thomas.brewer@svh-mt.org
St. James Healthcare		No One at present			400 South Clark	Butte	MT	59701			
Eastern MT Telemedicine Network	Mark	Horn (I)	Telemedicine Tech	2800 10 Ave N	P.O. Box 37000	Billings	MT	59107	406-657-4057	406-657-4875	mhorn@emtn.org
Northcentral Montana Healthcare Alliance	Jack	King	Executive Director	1101 26 th St. S.		Great Falls	MT	59405	406-455-4285	406-455-4141	kingjacw@benefis.org
Partners in Health Telehealth Network	Cindy	Leenknecht (I)	Clinical Telehealth Coordinator		PO Box 35200	Billings	MT	59107	406-237-8652		cindy.leeknecht@svh-mt.org
Eastern MT Telemedicine Network	Thelma	McClosky Armstrong (I)	Director	2800 10 Ave N	P.O. Box 37000	Billings	MT	59107	406-657-4057	406-657-4875	tmcclosky@emtn.org
Montana Primary Care Association	Shawna	Morse (I)				Helena	MT		406-442-2750		smorse@mtpca.org
Burns Telecommunications Center	Clare	Becker (A)			PO Box 173860	Bozeman	MT	59715	406-994-6836	406-994-7856	clarebecker@montana.edu
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana		No One at present									

**MONTANA HEALTHCARE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ALLIANCE
MEMBERSHIP MAILING LIST 4/25/07**

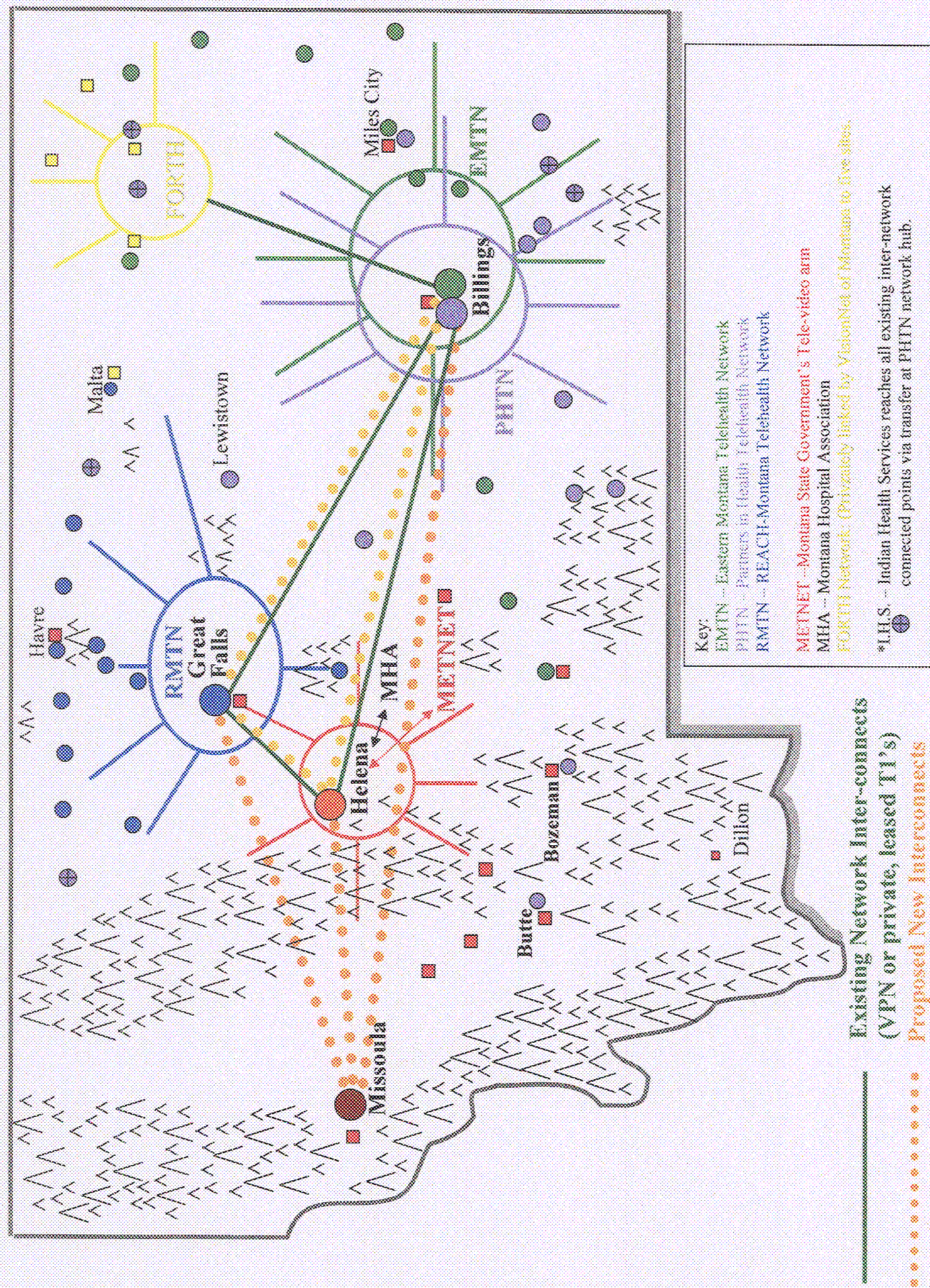
Company	First Name	Last Name & Mem. type	Job title	Address1	Mailing address	City	State	Zip Code	Work Phone	FAX Number	E-Mail
Network (Fiber Optic Rural TeleHealth)		present									
St. Patrick Hospital & Health Sciences Center	Arek	Shennar (I)	Dir. Info Services	PO Box 4587	500 W Broadway	Missoula	MT	59802	406-329-5700	406-329-	shennar@saintpatrick.org
REACHMT Telehealth Network	Karyn	Sowa (I)	Telemedicine Specialist		1101 26 St South	Great Falls	MT	59405	406-455-5588	406-455-4770	sowakarl@benefis.org
DPPHS		present									
State of MT Dept of Administration- ISD	Jim	White (I)			PO Box 200113	Helena	MT	59620-0113	406-444-2700	406-444-2701	jwhite@state.mt.us

Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Alliance

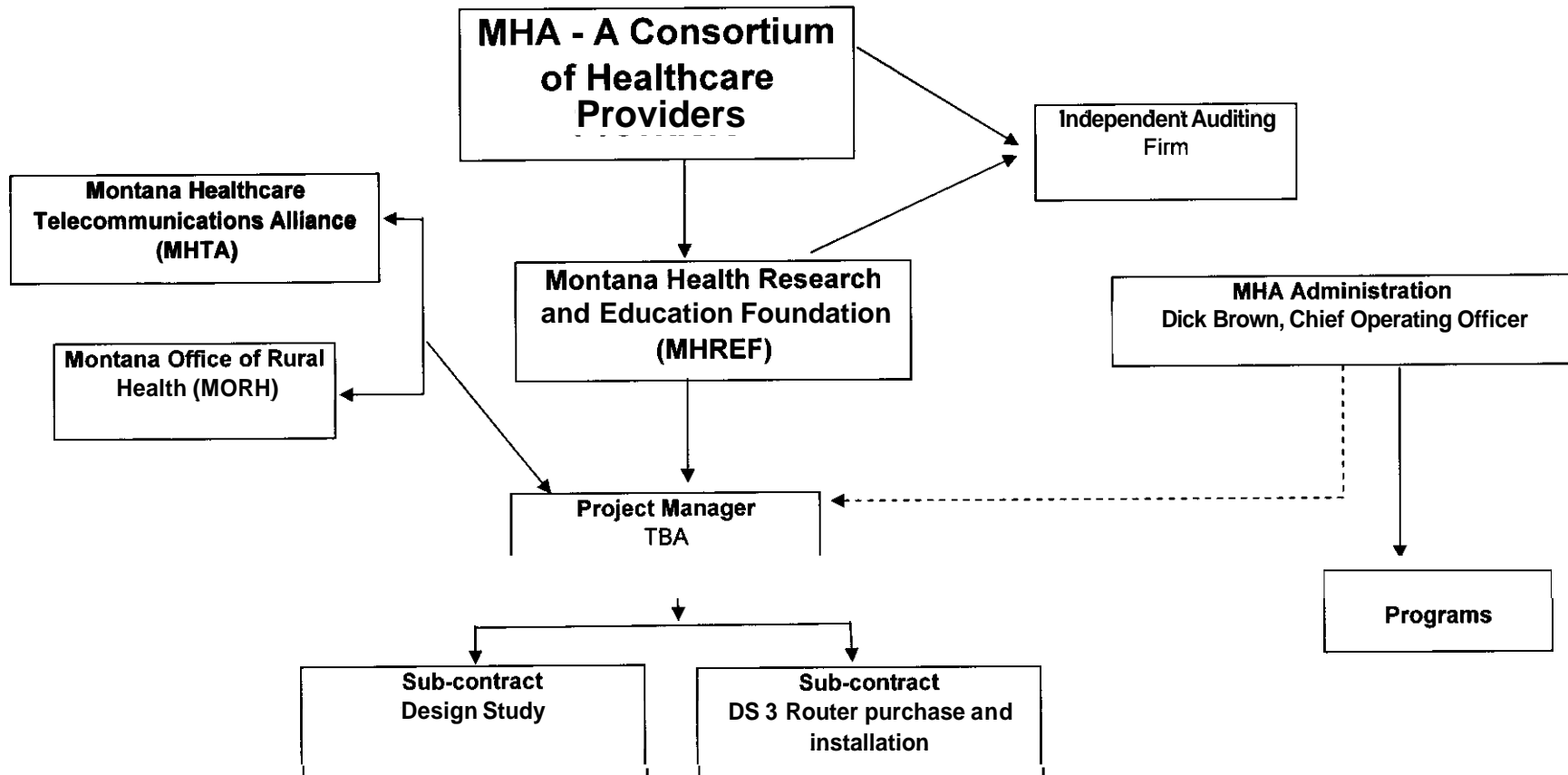


- Eastern Montana Telemedicine Network (406) 657-4870
- METNET - State of Montana (406) 444-6788
- Partners in Health Telemedicine Network (406) 237-8650
- Realizing Education And Community Health (406) 455-5588
- St. Patrick Hospital (406) 329-5626
- FORTH (406) 654-1100

Montana Tele-Health Networks Inter-Network-Connect Plan



Montana Health Research and Education Foundation
Frontier Access to Healthcare in Rural Montana - A Multidisciplinary Approach in the Big Sky Country
An Organizational Chart



Kipman Scott Smith
53 Pine Ridge Circle
Clancy, Montana 59634
(406) 933-5948

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa
September, 1971 - August, 1975
B.S. Degree in Industrial Administration - Finance Option

Mason City High School, Mason City, Iowa
September, 1968 - May, 1971

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Montana Health Research and Education Foundation; Helena, Montana

11/99 - Present Director

Montana Primary Care Association; Helena, Montana

10/92 - 11/99 Associate Director

Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services
Medicaid Services Division; Helena, Montana

3/90 - 2/91 Hospital Program Officer
3/91 - 9/92 Section Supervisor

Thurber Office Supply and Furniture; Helena, Montana

9/86 - 8/89 Owner/Manager
9/89 - 2/90 Consultant to New Owners

St. Peter's Community Hospital; Helena, Montana

2/82 - 8/86 Director of Human Resources

Northwest Bancorporation; Minneapolis, MN

9/75 - 6/76 Banco Incorporated - Duluth, MN
Staff Auditor

7/76 - 4/71	First National Bank - Duluth, MN Regional Personnel Assistant
5/77 - 1/81	Northwestern Bank - Virginia, MN Assistant Vice President - Personnel and Operations
2/81 - 1/82	Northwestern Bank - Helena, MT Assistant Vice President and Personnel Manager

HONORS AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Advisory Task Force for National Flex Monitoring Program; Member 2004 – Present

National Rural Health Resource Center, Duluth, MN; Board Member 2003 - Present

National Advisory Committee - Technical Assistance and Services Center for the Rural Hospital Flexibility Program, Member 2001 - Present; Chair 2003 - Present

Jefferson High Booster Club; Member, 1995 - 2002
Vice President - 1996-1998; President - 1998-2000

Jefferson High School Building and Site Committee; Member, 1996 - 1999

Clancy Little League; Girls Softball Coach, 1991-1996

Exchange Club of Helena; Board Member, Vice President,
President-Elect, President and Member 1983-1991

Elkhorn Search and Rescue; Member 1986 - 1995, Secretary - 1987 & 88,
President - 1992 & 1993

Lewis and Clark Search and Rescue; Member 1989 - 1994

Montana Sled Dog, Inc.; Emergency Services Director 1988 - 1990,
Board Member - 1989 - 1990

Name: Barta, Doris T.

Title: Director, Grants Division

Education:

Institution and Location	Degree	Year Conferred	Field of Study
Montana State University –Billings, Montana	Master's	1999	Health Administration - Summa Cum Laude
Eastern Montana College, Billings, Montana	Bachelor of Science	1979	Rehabilitation & Related Svcs Minor - Business Administration

Publications

Cech, V., Barta D., Montana Tests Telemedicine in Bioterrorism Response, Homeland Protection Professional, September 2004.

Discovery Readiness Drill: Disaster Preparedness/Emergency Medicine, Northwest Regional Rural Health Conference, Spokane Washington, March 24, 2005

Utilization of Telemedicine Applications in a Disaster Situation, Office for the Advancement of Telehealth Annual Grantee Conference, Washington DC, February 2005

Telehealth in Mental Health Applications, Office for the Advancement of Telehealth Annual Grantee Conference, Washington DC, January 2004

Experience

St. Vincent Healthcare Foundation, Billings, Montana
Director, Grants Division

Aug/99-Current

Montana Community Partners (MCP), Billings, MT.
Administrative Services Director

Feb/97-Jul/99

Greater Yellowstone Region of the Montana Community Foundation
Regional Development Director

May/96-Feb/97

Deaconess Billings Clinic Foundation, Deaconess-Billings Clinic (DBC): Billings Montana
Grants Manager -

Jan/90-Mar/96

Big Brothers/Sisters of Yellowstone County, Billings Montana
Executive Director

Oct/85-Dec/89.

YDAAP (Yellowstone Drug Abuse Alert Project), Billings, Montana
Project Director

Employment Programs, HRDC, Billings Montana
Coordinator/Counselor Youth

Jan/79-Dec/83

Human Resources Development Council (HRDC), Billings, Montana
Planning Director,

Dec/83-Nov/85.

Organizations

Member, MT Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), Past President, 1989-current.

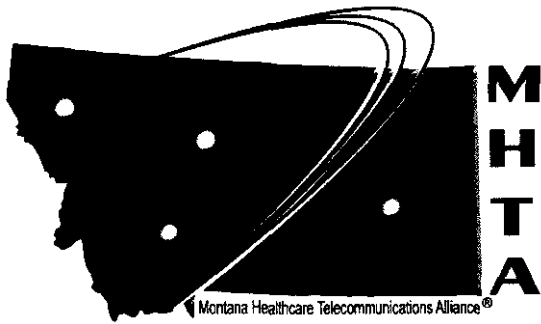
Member, Association of Healthcare Professionals (AHP), 1999-current.

Member, Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Association (MHTA), 1997-Current. President Governor Appointed, Health Care Liaison for the Governor's Blue Ribbon Telecommunications Task Force, 1996-1998.

Senator Conrad Burns Appointed, Health Care Liaison for the MT Telecommunications Advisory Council (MTAC), 1992-1996.

Family Tree Center, Board of Directors –Past President, 1995-2001,

Young Families Program Board of Directors - Past President, 1990-1995.



April 27, 2007

Commission's Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
9300 East Hampton Drive
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Regarding FCC WC Docket No. 02-60; Rural Health Care Support Mechanism

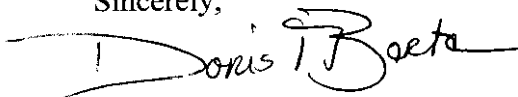
Dear Chairman Martin,

Please accept this letter of commitment for the FCC pilot program application being submitted by Montana Health Research and Education Foundation (MHREF) on behalf of MHA and the Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Alliance (MHTA) an affiliate society of MHA.

The Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Alliance has been very engaged in the advancement of telehealth in the state of Montana. Comprised of the telehealth leadership in the state, this organization has been working on telehealth issues related to rural healthcare access in our state for the past thirteen years. One of our primary goals since the beginning of our Alliance is the development of a secure, statewide backbone for healthcare purposes. We are very pleased to be able to submit this application to the FCC for that very purpose and will work very collaboratively with MHREF to ensure that this program is implemented and timelines are achieved.

This FCC project is needed in a frontier state like Montana. Funding through this program is crucial to the infrastructure development for rural healthcare providers in our state. This network will position all healthcare entities in the state of Montana for the development of future applications as well as support HIT initiatives that are developed at the local, regional and state level. We look forward to the additional benefit this project will provide to the communities and citizens we serve in rural Montana. Please feel free to contact me at 406-237-3602 or you may email me at doris.barta@svh-mt.org if you have any questions regarding this letter of commitment.

Sincerely,


Doris T. Barta, President
MHTA Board of Directors



April 27, 2007

Commission's Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
9300 East Hampton Drive
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Regarding FCC WC Docket No. 02-60; Rural Health Care Support Mechanism

Dear Chairman Martin,

Please accept this letter of commitment for the FCC pilot program application, WC Docket No. 02-60, by the Montana Health Research and Education Foundation (MHREF) on behalf of MHA, a Consortium of health care providers including rural and urban not-for-profit hospitals in the state of Montana and the Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Alliance (MHTA) an affiliate society of MHA.

The Montana Office of Rural Health (MORH) has been very engaged in the development of this statewide application since the initial announcement by the FCC. Additionally, we have been very active in the Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Alliance since its inception in 1997. The advancement of a statewide dedicated broadband healthcare network will be very beneficial to our state, and promotes our mission which is to serve its communities through: (1) collecting and disseminating information within the state, (2) improving recruitment and retention of health professionals into rural areas, (3) providing technical assistance to attract more federal, state, and foundation funding for rural health, and (4) coordinating rural health interests and activities across the state. We are very supportive of this application to the FCC Pilot Program and should it be funded we serve as a collaborating partner and will dedicate the resources necessary to insure a successful implementation of the project.

This FCC project is needed in a frontier state like Montana. Funding through this program is crucial to the infrastructure development for rural healthcare providers in our state. This network will position all healthcare entities in the state of Montana for the development of future applications as well as support HIT initiatives that are developed at the local, regional and state level.

We look forward to the additional benefit this project will provide to the communities and citizens we serve in rural Montana. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this letter of commitment.

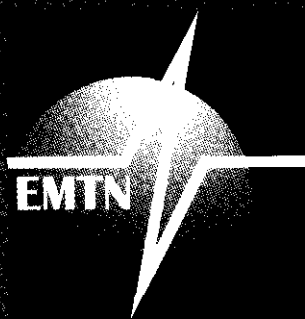
Sincerely,
Kristin Juliar

Kristin Juliar
Director

Montana Office
of Rural Health
Division of Health
Sciences
304 Culbertson Hall
P O Box 170540
Bozeman MT 59717 0540
<http://ruralhealth.montana.edu>

Tel (406) 994-5553
Fax (406) 994-5653

Mountains & Minds



EASTERN MONTANA TELEMEDICINE NETWORK

Network Office: Billings Clinic

2800 Tenth Avenue North • Billings, Montana 59101

Ph.(406) 657-4870 • Ph.(800) 332-7156 • Fax (406) 657-4875 • www.emtn.org

May 3, 2007

Ms Doris Barta

President, Montana Healthcare Telecommunication Alliance

Director, Grants Division

St. Vincent Healthcare Foundation

175 North 27th, Suite 803

Wells Fargo Building

Billings, MT 59101

Dear Doris

The Eastern Montana Telemedicine Network representing **29** healthcare partners in **17** rural and frontier communities in central and eastern Montana submits this letter in strong support of the Montana Healthcare Telecommunication Alliance (MHTA) application to the Federal Communication Commission's *Rural Healthcare Pilot Program*.

MHTA's proposed pilot project will bring the needed infrastructure supporting continued growth and development of telemedicine and telehealth services throughout our state. By strengthening our existing hub connections among networks, medical specialist located anywhere in the state will be able to provide services to any rural citizen. The network design study will provide a long term road map, connecting all not-for-profit healthcare, community health center and mental health center in the state, bringing critically needed telehealth and telemedicine resources to **all** the citizens of Montana.

The state of Montana telemedicine networks through MHTA have a long history of successful collaboration, putting competitive issues aside, working to meet the needs of the citizens of our state. I look forward to working on this project, continuing our quest to bring telemedicine and telehealth resources to every healthcare facility in our state, serving our citizens **by** improving access to quality healthcare.

Sincerely,

Thelma McClosky Armstrong
Director

Partners

Beartooth Hospital

Colstrip Medical Center

Eastern Montana Community
Mental Health Center

Fallon Medical Complex

Frances Mahon Deaconess Hospital

Glendive Medical Center

Livingston Healthcare

Montana Family Medicine Residency

MHA...An Association of Montana
Health Care Providers

Montana Primary Care Association

North Big Horn Hospital

Pioneer Medical Center

Roosevelt Memorial Hospital &
Nursing Home

Rosebud Healthcare Center

Sidney Health Center

Stillwater Community Hospital

Yellowstone City-County
Health Department

FORTH Network

Daniels Memorial Hospital

Northeast MT Health Service

Phillips County Hospital

Sheridan Memorial Hospital



April 27, 2007

Commission's Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
9300 East Hampton Drive
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Regarding FCC WC Docket No. 02-60; Rural Health Care Support Mechanism

Dear Chairman Martin,

We are pleased to be able to provide this letter of commitment and support to the application being submitted by the Montana Health Research and Education Foundation (MHREF) on behalf of the Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Alliance (MHTA).

As a founding member of MHA, St. Vincent Healthcare has a strong history of providing telehealth applications and began the Partners in Health Telemedicine Network (PHTN) in 1994. Since then, the PHTN network has grown to include thirty two partner sites providing telehealth services that include telemedical consults, teleradiology, telepharmacy and telemental health. PHTN uses two-way interactive video telecommunications technology for the delivery of specialty medical services to its Montana partners as well as regionally to the Children's Hospital in Denver Colorado for pediatric cardiology support and the University of Utah in Salt Lake City for bum care. The PHTN network provides access to healthcare services in rural and frontier Montana as well as northern Wyoming communities who otherwise would not have access to specialized care.

We are very supportive of this application to the FCC, as this project will allow the state of Montana, which has vast geographic barriers to healthcare services, to develop an infrastructure with the capacity to connect all hospitals, mental health centers and community health centers through a secure, dedicated broadband healthcare network. The implementation of this network will increase our capacity to use technology to reduce hospital stays and the costs of medical care, and will also facilitate transmission of emergency medical records among healthcare providers and healthcare facilities. It will position all healthcare entities in the state of Montana for the development of future applications as well as support HIT initiatives that are developed at the local, regional and state level.

One of the goals of MHTA since its inception has been to develop a statewide broadband network for all telehealth applications. This FCC funding will give us that opportunity. We appreciate the opportunity to participate in this exciting opportunity. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas L. ...", is written over a dotted line.

Director. PHTN

NMHA
NORTHCENTRAL MONTANA
HEALTHCARE ALLIANCE

May 1, 2007

Ms. Doris Barta, President
Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Alliance
St Vincent's Healthcare, Grants Division
175 N. 27th, Suite 803
Billings, MT 59101

Dear Doris,

Benefis Healthcare
Great Falls

Big Sandy Medical
Center
Big Sandy

Blackfeet Community
Hospital
Browning

Fort Belknap Service
Unit
Harlem

Liberty County
Hospital
Chester

Marias Medical Center
Shelby

Missouri River Medical
Center
Fort Benton

Mountainview Medical
Center
White Sulphur Springs

Northern Montana
Hospital
Havre

Northern Rockies
Medical Center
Cut Bank

Phillips County
Medical Center
Malta

Pondera Medical
Center
Conrad

Sweet Memorial
Nursing Home
Chinook

Teton Medical Center
Choteau

I am writing in support of the proposal that the Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Alliance (MHTA) is submitting to the FCC Rural Healthcare Pilot Program.

As you know, we operate the REACH Montana Telehealth Network (RMTN) from our offices and provide an increasing number of services to our rural and frontier partners in our region. We realize and accept that the ongoing expansion and delivery of clinical telehealth services to our partners will require an expanding utilization of broadband access that seriously exceeds our existing capabilities.

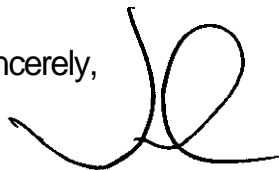
As telehealth, telemedicine, and health information technology require bigger and faster "pipelines" to rural and frontier communities, we stand to lose ground in the battle to provide even the most basic access to healthcare services, without improved and expanded broadband capability.

The Rural Healthcare Pilot program will allow the underserved areas of our decidedly rural state to connect to state-of-the-art healthcare services and information that will only become more critical in the future. The FCC's Rural Healthcare Pilot program will most assuredly improve access to broadband services for our frontier communities.

I know that the MHTA is the appropriate organization to implement a true state-wide broadband network that will bring connectivity and services to all healthcare facilities in the state and will supercede any competitive or regional bias.

I enthusiastically support the MHTA proposal to the FCC and commit our energies and resources to provide a positive outcome for our state and its residents.

Sincerely,



Jack W. King, Executive Director



May 3, 2007

Commission's Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
9300 East Hampton Drive
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Regarding FCC WC Docket No. 02-60; Rural Health Care Support Mechanism

Dear Chairman Martin,

Please accept this letter of commitment for the FCC pilot program application, WC Docket No. 02-60, by the Montana Health Research and Education Foundation (MHREF) on behalf of MHA, a Consortium of health care providers including rural and urban not-for-profit hospitals in the state of Montana and the Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Alliance (MHTA) an affiliate society of MHA.

Billings Clinic has been engaged in telehealth activities since 1993 with the development of the Eastern Montana Telemedicine Network (EMTN). It is through this network that the Billings Clinic has been able to provide invaluable health care services to the rural and frontier communities we serve. EMTN, a nationally recognized telemedicine network, has provided thousands of medical consults to our rural partners on an annual basis since its inception. Through this outreach program, we continue to strive to meet our mission to provide the best healthcare possible. We applaud this statewide effort on behalf of expanding telehealth capacity, and are committed to providing \$10,000 towards the matching requirements of this proposal.

We recognize the need for a statewide infrastructure with the capacity to connect all hospitals, mental health centers and community health centers through a secure, dedicated broadband healthcare network. The implementation of a network of this magnitude will enable multiple applications such as high definition videoconferencing, radiology, electronic health records and other data services to run over the network simultaneously. It will position all healthcare entities in the state of Montana for the development of future applications as well as support HIT initiatives that are developed at the local, regional and state level.

We look forward to the implementation of this project and the health services it will provide to the communities and citizens we serve in rural Montana. Please feel free to contact Thelma McClosky Armstrong, Director of EMTN, or me if you have any questions regarding this letter of commitment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. James Duncan".

E. James Duncan
President



May 2, 2007

Commission's Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
9300 East Hampton Dr.
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Re: FCC WC Docket No. 02-60; Rural Health Care Support Mechanism

Chairman Martin:

This letter serves to inform you of Community Medical Center's support of and commitment to the Federal Communications Commission pilot program application, WC Docket No. 02-60. This application is being made by the Montana Health Research and Education Foundation (MHREF) on behalf of MHA, an association of Montana health care providers, including rural and urban not-for-profit hospitals, and the Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Alliance (MHTA), an affiliate society of MHA.

At Community Medical Center in Missoula, Mont., work has been underway to create the Western Montana Telehealth Network (WMTN). The network is being created to formulate a link between all telehealth networks in Montana, resulting in better and more responsive care for citizens and an avenue to respond to disaster and security issues statewide. Our vision is that, regardless of geography, all Montanans will have access to the same level of healthcare and technology, and all Montanans will benefit from tertiary hospitals and critical access facilities responding immediately statewide to healthcare issues and prospective disasters and security events.

Missoula is one of the two major population centers in the western portion of Montana. With WMTN, CMC has been seeking to develop a robust telehealth network that would incorporate not only all of the rural medical facilities in the western half of Montana, but also form an interface to the established networks already covering much of Eastern Montana. This statewide network, comprised of the Eastern Montana Telemedicine Network (EMTN) at Billings Clinic in Billings, Mont., and the Partners in Health Telemedicine Network at St. Vincent Healthcare in Billings, as well as other telemedicine networks in the state, would create a relationship linking urban and rural healthcare facilities, resulting in better and more responsive care for citizens.

WMTN has been working to comprise all hospitals in Western Montana and in Salmon, Idaho. CMC has established, grounded relationships with the critical access hospitals of Western Montana and in Salmon, largely due to CMC's capacity as the region's only provider of neonatal services and its renowned Rehabilitation Institute of Montana. CMC has a formal working relationship with six of the rural hospitals, through co-governance of a regional physician/hospital organization (PHO), the Monida Healthcare Network. Through Monida, mobile MRI services have been provided to rural hospitals in the region. In addition, one of Monida's rural members, St. Luke Community Healthcare Network in Ronan, has been the administrator of a Health Resources Services Administration Rural Outreach Grant. Under the grant, St. Luke and Monida established more than 20 specialty outreach clinics in nine rural communities in Western Montana, as well as Salmon. These clinics provide specialty services in the rural communities, keeping care local and helping maintain local hospitals as the centers of care for their communities. One other example of the relationships CMC has built with rural communities is CMC's

invitation to St. Luke's, and their acceptance, to be a joint venture partner in CMC's heart catheterization lab. Each of these relationships has helped lay the foundation for the development of a broad telehealth network for Western Montana that would link to the state's other networks.

An example of how the network could be utilized: Montana's rural areas are underserved in obstetrics care, often because of rising malpractice insurance premium rates for OB physicians. WMTN would allow CMC and Missoula physicians to provide rural areas better prenatal care; maternal education; ultrasound consultations for high-risk pregnancies; education on stabilizing babies for rural family practice physicians, pediatricians and registered nurses (CMC staff often hears that rural medical staff members cannot leave their hospitals for education because the hospital would be understaffed upon their departure); evaluation of infants prior to transport from a rural area to a tertiary facility; and the ability of specialists in Missoula to read fetal heart monitors placed in the rural locations.

The rural hospitals in Western Montana are located at Marcus Daly Memorial Hospital in Hamilton; Clark Fork Valley Hospital in Plains; St. Luke Community Healthcare Network in Ronan; Mineral County Hospital in Superior; St. Joseph's Hospital in Polson; Community Hospital of Anaconda in Anaconda; Granite County Memorial Hospital in Philipsburg; Powell County Memorial Hospital in Deer Lodge; Barrett Memorial Hospital in Dillon; and Steele Memorial Hospital in Salmon. We would envision connecting to CMC's tertiary-level competitor in Missoula, St. Patrick Hospital and Health Sciences Center, and their managed hospitals, so that all hospitals can share the infrastructure and establish a Western Montana regional health information type of organization. This broad network would then link with the efforts underway in Eastern, Central and Northwestern Montana.

Community Medical Center is very supportive of this application to the FCC, and the hospital is committed to providing \$1 0,000 toward matching requirements of the proposal.

Montana's healthcare delivery system needs to develop an infrastructure connecting services through a secure, dedicated broadband network. Such a network would allow our state to engage in services such as high-definition video-conferencing, radiology, electronic health records and other data services that would run over the network simultaneously. The project would position all healthcare entities in the state for development of future applications, as well as support HIT initiatives being developed at the local, regional, state and federal levels.

CMC looks forward to the benefits that this FCC project will provide to the healthcare consumers of Montana. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions regarding this letter of support and commitment.

Cordially,



Karen Sullivan
Director
Marketing/Public Relations
Community Medical Center
Missoula, Montana

Bozeman Deaconess
Foundation

April 27, 2007

Commission's Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
9300 East Hampton Drive
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Regarding FCC WC Docket No. 02-60; Rural Health Care Support Mechanism

Dear Chairman Martin,

Please accept this letter of commitment for the FCC pilot program application, WC Docket No. 02-60, by the Montana Health Research and Education Foundation (MHREF) on behalf of MHA, a Consortium of health care providers including rural and urban not-for-profit hospitals in the state of Montana and the Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Alliance (MHTA) an affiliate society of MHA.

Bozeman Deaconess Hospital is a member of the Partners in Health Telemedicine Network. We are also active participants in the Gallatin Valley RHO, which includes services in Bozeman, Livingston, Belgrade as well as other rural communities in our region. This FCC Pilot Program will allow additional growth for medical records sharing across our networks. We are very committed to developing the statewide dedicated broadband healthcare network and it would benefit the western part of the state of Montana significantly. We are very supportive of this application to the FCC Pilot Program and should it be funded we will consider a financial commitment of \$10,000 towards the matching requirements.

This FCC project is needed in a frontier state like Montana. Telehealth services has allowed health care providers to vastly improve access to quality medical services by providing access to needed medical specialists in numerous practices in this state. In order to remain compliant to the vastly changing healthcare environment, it is necessary for our healthcare delivery system to develop an infrastructure with the capacity to connect healthcare services through a secure, dedicated broadband healthcare network. This network will position all healthcare entities in the state of Montana for the development of future applications as well as support HIT initiatives that are developed at the local, regional and state level.

We look forward to the additional benefit this project will provide to the communities and citizens we serve in rural Montana. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this letter of commitment.



Debra Gill
Executive Vice President of Philanthropy

Thank you for remembering Bozeman Deaconess Foundation in your will.



P.O.Box 4587
Missoula, MT. 59806
406-329-5640
www.stpatsfoundation.org

April 27, 2007

Commission's Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
9300 East Hampton Drive
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Regarding FCC WC Docket No. 02-60; Rural Health Care Support Mechanism

Dear Chairman Martin,

Please accept this letter of commitment for the FCC pilot program application, WC Docket No. 02-60, by the Montana Health Research and Education Foundation (MHREF) on behalf of MHA, a Consortium of health care providers including rural and urban not-for-profit hospitals in the state of Montana and the Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Alliance (MHTA) an affiliate society of MHA.

St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula has recently developed a telemedicine network. We are very committed to developing the statewide dedicated broadband healthcare network and it would benefit the western part of the state of Montana significantly. We are very supportive of this application to the FCC Pilot Program. We recognize the work that MHTA has done to develop telehealth activities in this state and look forward to serving as a member of MHTA working on the implementation of this pilot project. We commit \$10,000 towards the matching requirements of this proposal.

This FCC project is needed in a rural state like Montana. Our state is vastly rural with a majority of it designated as Frontier. In many situations, telehealth has been the only venue to provide access to specialty services to our small communities. In order to remain compliant to the vastly changing healthcare environment, it is necessary for our healthcare delivery system to develop an infrastructure with the capacity to connect healthcare services through a secure, dedicated broadband healthcare network. This network will position all healthcare entities in the state of Montana for the development of future applications as well as support HIT initiatives that are developed at the local, regional and state level.

We look forward to the additional benefit this project will provide to the communities and citizens we serve in rural Montana. Please feel **free** to contact me if you have any questions regarding this letter of commitment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joel Lankford'.

Joel Lankford
Executive Director



St. Vincent Healthcare Foundation

Benefiting the Healing Ministry of St. Vincent Healthcare

April 27, 2007

Commission's Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
9300 East Hampton Drive
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Regarding FCC WC Docket No. 02-60; Rural Health Care Support Mechanism

Dear Chairman Martin,

Please accept this letter of commitment for the FCC pilot program application, WC Docket No. 02-60, by the Montana Health Research and Education Foundation (MHREF) on behalf of MHA, a Consortium of health care providers including rural and urban not-for-profit hospitals in the state of Montana and the Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Alliance (MHTA) an affiliate society of MHA.

St. Vincent Healthcare has a strong history of serving the needs of our rural communities through numerous outreach programs, such as our Partners in Health Telemedicine Network (PHTN). As part of our mission, the HTN network provides telehealth services that include telemedical consults, teleradiology, telepharmacy and telemental health. The PHTN network provides access to healthcare services in rural and frontier Montana as well as northern Wyoming communities who otherwise would not have access to specialized care. We are very supportive of this application to the FCC, and are committed to providing \$10,000 towards the matching requirements of this proposal.

This FCC project will allow the state of Montana to develop an infrastructure with the capacity to connect all hospitals, mental health centers and community health centers through a secure, dedicated broadband healthcare network. This network will enable multiple applications such as high definition videoconferencing, radiology, electronic health records and other data services to run over the network simultaneously. It will position all healthcare entities in the state of Montana for the development of future applications as well as support HIT initiatives that are developed at the local, regional and state level.

We look forward to the additional benefit this project will provide to the communities and citizens we serve in rural Montana. Please feel free to contact either myself or Tom Brewer, Director of PHTN if you have any questions regarding this letter of commitment.

Sincerely,

David Irion
Executive Director

*Please consider including St. Vincent Healthcare in your Will or Estate Planning
your legacy will live on in the lives of grateful patients for years to come.*

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2602

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May 2, 2007

Chairman Kevin J. Martin
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Communication
9300 East Hampton Drive
Capital Heights, MD 20743

Dear Chairman Martin:

I am honored to have the opportunity to express my strong support to this statewide initiative for a secure broadband healthcare network for the state of Montana submitted by MHA on behalf of the Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Alliance (MHTA).

Montana has many barriers to accessing quality health care services. The large geographical distance between rural communities means that many Montanans must travel great distances to access health care services. Telecommunications has revolutionized health care services in rural areas of Montana by allowing residents to access specialized, quality care in their own communities. This not only saves Montanans travel time and expense, but provides consistent and continually improving care through their primary provider.

For the past thirteen year, MHTA has advocated for the cost reduction of telehealth networks through shared resources and reduction of transmission costs; thus promoting interoperability in and among systems throughout the state. Implementation of a broadband healthcare network for the state of Montana will build a statewide telecommunications backbone for health information technology and position all health entities in Montana to prepare for the future in the ever changing health care field.

Again, this project carries with it my full support, and I hope you will consider their application favorably. Please feel free to contact my office if I can provide any additional information. I also would greatly appreciate if you kept my office informed about the status of this request.

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely,



MSB/jj

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

April 30, 2007

Chairman Martin
~~Office~~ of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
9300 East Hampton Drive
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

~~Dear~~ Mr. Martin:

It is a privilege to write in support of the Montana Healthcare Telecommunication Alliance (MHTA) ~~as~~ they apply for funds ~~through~~ the FCC's Pilot ~~Program~~.

MHTA seeks to develop a telehealth infrastructure for the state of Montana. The cost of developing ~~and~~ participating in a telemedicine network is often prohibitive for many of Montana's rural hospitals and clinics, yet many of ~~our~~ most rural communities rely on telehealth applications to provide specialty services to their patients. The MHTA is actively working to alleviate this ~~burden~~ on ~~our~~ state's healthcare providers. This proposal will provide expanded bandwidth for all telehealth applications in the state of Montana.

I hope that you will favorably consider the Montana Healthcare Telecommunication Alliance's application for funds.

Sincerely,



Denny Rehberg
Montana's Congressman

DRR:bb

Health-e Montana
P.O. 170520
Bozeman, Montana 59717

April 27, 2007

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Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
9300 East Hampton Drive
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

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Health-e Montana is a state wide health information technology organization. Originally organized with assistance from the office of Senator Max Baucus, over 100 stakeholders in health information technology met for over a year to develop a strategic approach to HIT adoption for the state. In 2007, the large stakeholder group formed into a not for profit corporation, with a formal board and steering committee. Many of the members have been active members in the Montana Healthcare Telecommunications Alliance since its inception in 1997. Health-e Montana has had many briefings on the proposed FCC pilot program application, and is supportive of the submission of the proposal.

The advancement of a statewide dedicated broadband healthcare network will be very beneficial to our state, and promotes our mission which is to serve its communities through: (1) collecting and disseminating information within the state, (2) improving recruitment and retention of health professionals into rural areas, (3) providing technical assistance to attract more federal, state, and foundation funding for rural health, and (4) coordinating rural health interests and activities across the state. We are very supportive of this application to the FCC Pilot Program.

This FCC project is needed in a frontier state like Montana. Funding through this program is crucial to the infrastructure development for rural healthcare providers in our state. This network will position all healthcare entities in the state of Montana for the development of future applications as well as support HIT initiatives that are developed at the local, regional and state level.

We look forward to the additional benefit this project will provide to the communities and citizens we serve in rural Montana. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this letter of commitment.

Sincerely,
Kristin Juliar

Kristin Juliar
Chair